

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The replacement sheet in the Appendix includes changes to Figure 1. This sheet, which also includes Figure 2, replaces the original sheet including Figures 1 and 2. In Figure 1, the previously omitted designation Prior Art has been added.

REMARKS

The specification, drawings, and abstract have been amended to make editorial changes therein, bearing in mind the criticisms in the Official Action, to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 1-2 were rejected as anticipated by KARNASCH DE 27 06 533 A1. Claim 1 has been amended and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

KARNASCH discloses a device for bending metal that includes a square base plate 1, a rotatable bending arm 2, a round protrusion 3 that is a seat for a bearing 4, a bending plate 5 rigidly connected to the square base plate 1, that is in turn fixed to a support bench (not shown) by means of bolts in holes 19, a replaceable matrix 6 having an eccentric lever 8 for locking a workpiece to be bent, and a support 9 that has a rod 10 having a tool holder that supports an idle rotating roller 11. That is, the replaceable matrix 6 is stationary on the bending plate 5, which is also stationary being rigidly connected to the square base plate 1, and the bend arm 2 rotates around the matrix 6. In operation, a workpiece is locked at one end to the matrix 6 and then manually, by means of a handle 15, the bend arm is rotated to push the idle rotating roller 11 on the workpiece against the matrix 6.

Claim 1 has been amended to provide that the actuator is immovably fixed on the worktable, such as shown in Figures 2-6

of the present application. As explained above, KARNASCH discloses that the support 9 rotates and thus support 9 does not correspond to the claimed actuator that is immovably fixed to the worktable. Accordingly, claims 1 and 2 avoid the rejection under §102. New claim 12 also includes this feature and is similarly allowable.

New claims 8 and 11 further avoids this rejection because the reference does not disclose a worktable that has a linear groove therein and a tool holder that is movably mounted in the groove.

New claim 9 is allowable because the reference does not disclose or suggest a mandrel usable for a curling operation that passes through the worktable and is driven by a motor inside the frame.

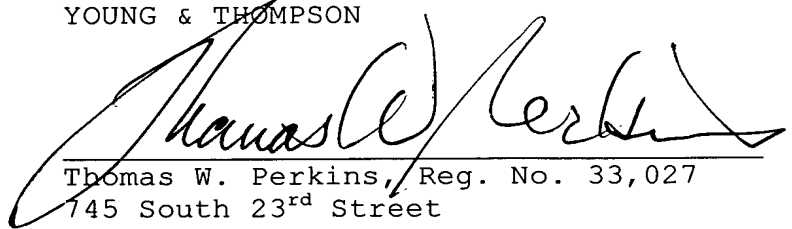
Claim 4 has been canceled and consideration and allowance of all remaining claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas W. Perkins', is written over a horizontal line.

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TWP/lrs

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following items:

- one replacement drawing sheet
- amended Abstract